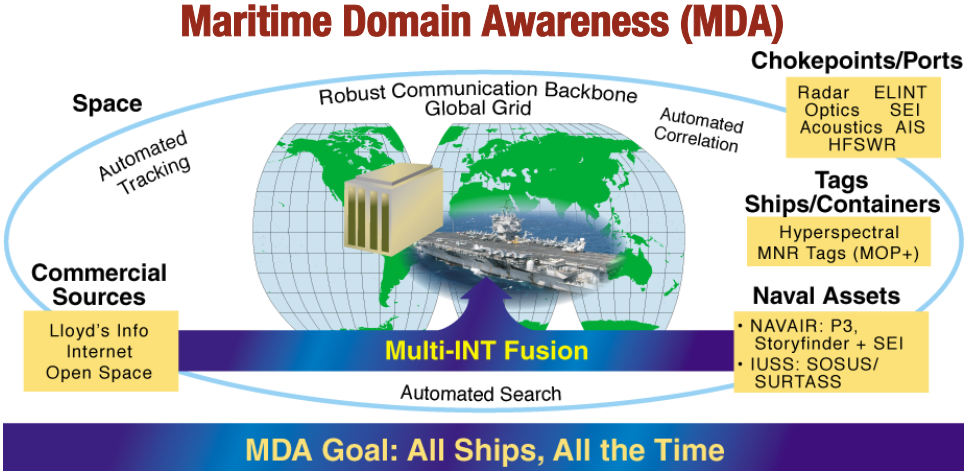


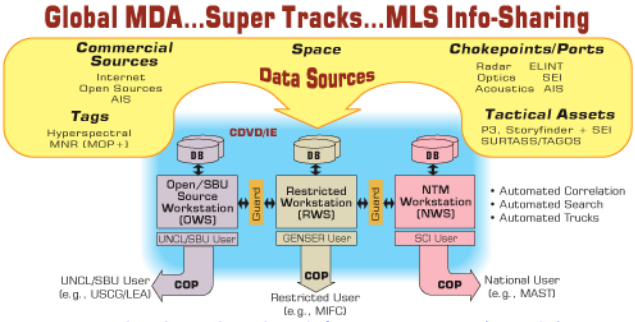
BACKGROUND

The ability to effectively track merchant shipping is of critical importance to U.S. Homeland Security and to U.S. interests abroad. Today there are a variety of systems and sensors employed in providing this capability. Although each can be uniquely effective, there is currently no means to synergistically integrate the disparate information they collect. This information is currently spread over many locations and databases, both classified and unclassified. Such a capability would significantly increase the ability to track merchant shipping and better enable the identification of suspicious activity for further analysis or onboard inspection.

DESCRIPTION

This program is developing an architecture that can access all available current data on ship tracking. A common distributed virtual database will provide the means to make this data available to all individuals/agencies involved in ship tracking. A key benefit will be to add automation to the current manual, labor intensive ship tracking process.

The program will initially address ship tracking in the Atlantic area of interest of the east coast of the U.S.



Common Distributed Virtual Database/Information Extraction (CDVD/IE) System

OBJECTIVES

- Improve the rate of ship tracking by at least two orders of magnitude
- Improve the quality of the data generated
- Fuse Multi-Int data, from multiple levels of security, into a ship track with its associated meta-data, releasable at the GENSER Secret level
- Move from the current manual process, to a fully automated process

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